



2005 SENATE BILL 594

February 13, 2006 – Introduced by Senators LEIBHAM, A. LASEE, REYNOLDS, ZIEN and GROTHMAN, cosponsored by Representatives HUEBSCH, MONTGOMERY, F. LASEE, ZIEGELBAUER, BIES, OWENS, LEMAHIEU, NISCHKE, JESKEWITZ, SUDER, JENSEN, MUSSER, VOS, ALBERS, GOTTLIEB, HONADEL and NERISON. Referred to Committee on Energy, Utilities and Information Technology.

- 1 **AN ACT** *to repeal* 196.493; and *to amend* 196.491 (3) (d) (intro.) of the statutes;
2 **relating to:** requirements for approval of construction of nuclear power plants.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Public Service Commission (PSC) may not approve the construction of a nuclear power plant unless the PSC makes two findings. First, the PSC must find that a facility inside or outside of the United States is available for adequate disposal of all high-level nuclear waste from all nuclear power plants operating in this state, including the proposed plant. Second, the PSC must find that the proposed plant, in comparison with feasible alternatives, is economically advantageous to ratepayers. The second finding must be based on the following factors: 1) the existence of a reliable and adequate nuclear fuel supply; 2) the costs for constructing, operating, and decommissioning nuclear power plants and for disposing of nuclear waste; and 3) any other factor having an impact on the economics of nuclear power plants, as determined by the PSC.

This bill eliminates the requirement for the PSC to make the two findings described above. Therefore, under the bill, a proposed nuclear power plant is subject to the same approval requirements applicable to the construction of other power plants.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

